

MINUTES
EDUCATION ADVISORY MEETING
TEXAS BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS
UT - Joe Thompson Conference Center
2405 Robert Dedman Drive
Room – 3.102
Austin, TX
March 23, 2011 - 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Call to order.

The meeting of the Education Advisory Committee (EAC) of the Texas Board of Professional Engineers (Board) was called to Order by Chair Ben Kelley, PhD., PE on March 23, 2011, at approximately 10:00 a.m., at the Thompson Conference Center, Room – 3.102, Austin, TX

1. Introduction of Committee Members

C. Mauli Argawal, PhD., UT San Antonio
G. Kemble Bennett, Ph.D., P.E., Board Liaison, Texas A&M University
Cesar Carrasco, PhD., UT El Paso
James Dunham, Ph.D., P.E., Southern Methodist University
John J. Chisholm, PhD., Texas A&M Kingsville
Benjamin S. Kelley, PhD., P.E., Committee Chair, Baylor
James K. Nelson, PhD., PE, UT Tyler
Gerald Speitel, PhD., UT Austin
Victor Zaloom, PhD., Lamar University

Staff present:

Angelena Martinez, Licensing Department
David Howell, P.E., Director of Licensing

Visitors: None.

2. Public Comment. None.

3. Approve Minutes from March 2, 2011 Meeting

It was MOVED/SECONDED to approve the Education Advisory Committee minutes from the March 2, 2011 meeting. A vote was taken, and the MOTION PASSED.

4. Update on Issues from the Board

Mr. Howell shared information regarding recent Board activities on the following topics:

- Legislative Issues
- Rule Changes
- BS+30
- PE/FE Exam Statistics

- Software Engineering
- Computer Based Testing
- HB3 Windstorm Inspector
- Engineers/Architect Update
- 4 year rule review
- On-line Application

Each item was discussed and committee members asked questions for clarification. No committee action was taken or recommended.

5. **TBPE Strategic Plan Discussion** – Mr. Howell described the TBPE initiative to develop a strategic plan for the upcoming biennium. He explained that in an effort to develop a complete and effective plan, we are soliciting advice on the development process. The committee members shared their experience regarding development of similar plans. They suggested developing a Mission, identifying stakeholders and communication strategies with stakeholders depending on the group. One key issue that was raised was the communication with legislators, as appropriate. The committee generally felt that legislators in an oversight capacity should be involved in the Strategic Planning process. No formal action was taken. Notes were taken to communicate with the TBPE staff.
6. **Educational Outreach by TBPE** – Mr. Howell opened the discussion by describing the outreach currently being done for University faculty and students. He described the effort to reach more students and faculty. After some discussion, the committee voiced concern that faculty licensure directly affects the students attitude toward the FE exam and ultimately, their performance and decision to take the exam. Mr. Howell described the limitations in the Engineering Practice Act related to the teaching of engineering and how since 2001, teaching experience may not be used to qualify for licensure. The committee felt that the Board should communicate the issue, as appropriate, to legislative staff. The committee wanted to help strengthen the Board position.

It was MOVED/SECONDED to approve the chair of the Education Advisory Committee to write a letter to the TBPE to support changing the statutory limitations regarding engineering educators in Texas. A vote was taken, and the MOTION PASSED.

Further discussion of outreach by the TBPE included a poster promoting licensure of engineers. The poster was developed by the UT Tyler graphics department and was presented to the committee by Dr. Nelson. He gave each committee member a copy and asked for comments. There was unanimous support for the poster. Comments were made that the Board's website should be added as well as a reference to social media (Facebook, Twitter, etc) and a QR code. There was discussion about funding the printing and distribution of the poster.

It was MOVED/SECONDED to request funding for the printing of the poster, with the discussed modifications, by the TBPE licensing committee at its next scheduled meeting. A vote was taken, and the MOTION PASSED.

7. **Issues for Discussion for the Joint Education, Government and Industry Meeting** – None.
8. **Issues for consideration at the Next scheduled EAC meeting** – None.
9. **Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at approximately 11:50 p.m.